

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending in this Application. The Examiner required that Applicants elect one group of the two identified groups for further prosecution, and an election was made by Applicants' representative in a telephone conference with the Examiner on 3/14/07 to prosecute Group II (claims 8-11). Applicants confirm the election of Group II for further prosecution on the merits in the present reply.

In the present Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claim 8, and indicated that claims 9-11 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable claims.

In the present reply, the Applicants have canceled claims 1-7 without prejudice and reserve the right to prosecute the canceled claims in a divisional application, continuation application, or other filing. Claim 8 has been amended to include the limitation of claim 9 per the Examiner's suggestion, and the Applicants have canceled claim 9. Claim 10 has been amended to depend from amended claim 8.

Conclusion

If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a telephone interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned attorney by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, the Applicants respectfully submit that the present application, including claims 8, 10 and 11, is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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